



NEWS RELEASE

PRESS OFFICE

Release Date: **August 24, 2004**

Contact: **Jan Wipijewski-(414) 297-1096**

Release Number: **04-19**

Send Us Your Nominations for SBA's 2005 Small Business Person of the Year Awards

Wisconsin: Help the U.S. Small Business Administration celebrate Wisconsin's thriving small business owners and advocates by taking the time to identify a nominee for our 2005 awards program. Small business is the embodiment of the American Dream. Today's entrepreneurs offer the vision of success to the next generation.

It's so important that we acknowledge what America's small businesses have given back to this country. To acknowledge the small business community's contributions to the American economy and society, the President of the United States designates one week each year as National Small Business Week. Small Business Week 2005 will take place in the spring of 2005. Any individual or organization dedicated to the support of the small business community in the United States may submit nominations for the following awards:

Small Business Person of the Year
Small Business Exporter of the Year
SBA Young Entrepreneur of the Year
Entrepreneurial Success Award
Minority Small Business Person of the Year
Emerging Small Business Person

Small Business Advocates of the Year award categories are for those who promote small business, including volunteering time and services to small business interests and groups, advocating the cause of small business in the legislative process. Advocates may or may not be small business owners. Categories are:

Minority Small Business Advocate of the Year
Veteran Small Business Advocate of the Year
Small Business Legal Assistance (WI award)
Financial Services Advocate
Home Based Business Advocate of the Year
Women in Business Advocate of the Year
Small Business Journalist of the Year
***Family-Owned Small Business**

- m o r e -

***Family-Owned Small Business** is a new category this year and is defined as a family owned and operated business that has been passed from one generation to another. Nominees must serve as a majority owner and operator or bear principal responsibility for operating a small business with at least a 15 year track record.

Nominations should be submitted no later than **October 1, 2004**. A short form can be obtained on Wisconsin's SBA website at www.sba.gov/wi/wisbanominationform.pdf. The criteria for each category are also on Wisconsin's SBA website at www.sba.gov/wi/wicriteria.pdf. You can also obtain a nomination form from Mary Trimmier at (414) 297-1093, 310 West Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 400, Milwaukee, WI 53203. From the one page nomination form, individuals will be asked to submit a more complete package highlighting the accomplishments of the business or individual.

*Additional information about SBA's programs and services is available
at the SBA's Web site: www.sba.gov and Wisconsin's SBA Website: www.sba.gov/wi*